

REMARKS

Claims 32 and 33 are pending in this application. Claims 1-31 were previously canceled. Claims 32 and 33 have been allowed.

Responsive to the objections to the specification imposed in the communication mailed on June 9, 2005, applicant has amended the specification to insert/correct various SEQ ID NO identifiers. In addition, applicant has amended the specification to correct a typographical error to the sequence listed on page 7, line 17, residues 105-166 of SEQ ID NO: 5 to change the n-terminus "STM" to "SKM." Support for the correction is found at position 106 of SEQ ID NO: 5 in Figure 5A.

The outstanding Official Action also objected to the specification on the grounds that it contained several amino acid sequences with four or more amino acids at page 7, last paragraph and at page 8, lines 18-20. However, applicant submits that residues in brackets or parentheses denote a variable amino acid at those positions, each of which will be represented by a single "Xaa." As a result, these sequences do not fall within the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(a). "Sequences with fewer than four specifically defined ... amino acids are specifically excluded from this section." "Specifically defined means those amino acids other than Xaa." 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(a).

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that this particular objection be withdrawn.

In view of the present amendment, applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action, with claims 32 and 33, as presented. Allowance and passage to issue on that basis are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Philip A. DuBois, Reg. No. 50,696
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297

PD/fb